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ABSTRACT

During the first year of its three-year existence, the Bicentennial Commission began to fulfill its mission, as defined by its chairman, to provide "a history and civics lesson for all of us." The Commission has decided to focus primarily on the educational potentialities of commemoration and to foster a firm understanding and appreciation of America's constitutional heritage and priceless freedoms. The Commission is cosponsoring two national writing competitions for high school and law school students, and has established an Educational Programs Registry to provide a short summary of Constitution-related programs. The National Archives has developed a supplemental teaching unit for secondary school students which contains 40 documents from the National Archives collection to aid in the educational effort of the Commission. In its role of encouraging and coordinating activities, the Commission has worked through private and public entities to reach out to U.S. citizens to create greater understanding of the accomplishments of the Founders, the nature of the system of governance they established, and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. (SM)

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FIRST FULL YEAR'S REPORT

OF THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

PREPARATION

FOR A COMMEMORATION

FIRST FULL YEAR'S REPORT

OF THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

September 1986

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

September 17, 1986

My dear Mr. President,

I have the honor to present to you the Second Report of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, as called for under section 6(e) of Public Law 98-101 which created the Commission.

This report covers the first full year of Commission activity. The members of the Commission were sworn in during July 1985, and the work of developing a staff began at once. The first Commission report was presented September 17, 1985--two months later.

We initiated a number of programs and projects in that first year, and much more needs to be done.

Under Public Law 98-101 our major duties are to plan and develop appropriate activities to commemorate the Bicentennial of the Constitution, encourage private organizations and state and local governments--and other governments--to organize and participate in Bicentennial activities, coordinate events throughout the States, and serve as a clearinghouse for collection and dissemination of information about Bicentennial events and plans. On all matters outside the United States, of course, our activities are being coordinated with Secretary Shultz.

As the report reveals, the Commission has helped to develop a number of programs emphasizing educational aspects of the commemoration. This effort is reaching primary and secondary schools, colleges and law schools. The Commission has established contact with hundreds of private organizations with large memberships. A majority, but not all, of the States and many local communities have set up their own Bicentennial commissions and programs. Participation by federal agencies and plans for creating international understanding of our constitutional principles are under way as well. A clearinghouse of computerized information is being set up and soon will be able to provide details about events throughout the country.

From the outset we have recognized that this Commission's function, which covers three years, is very different from the planning for the 1976 celebration and the Statute of Liberty unveiling. We must try to dramatize the great events leading up to the Philadelphia Convention, the difficult task of securing ratification and what all this has meant to secure freedom and opportunity for us now and for generations to come. Although the Bill of Rights was not adopted until 1791, we are treating it as part of the Constitution as, of course, it is. Essentially we have defined our objectives as "a history and civics lesson for all of us."

As we approach the Bicentennial date of the signing of this most historic charter--September 17, 1987--our efforts will intensify, to reach every American and people in other countries with knowledge and appreciation of the precious liberties guaranteed by America's organic law. We are finding that as the story of America's founding gets out it is generating excitement among people from all walks of life.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Warren E. Burger

Chairman of the Commission
on the Bicentennial of the
United States Constitution

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

(Similar letters are being submitted to the Vice President, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, and the Judicial Conference of the United States.)

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FIRST FULL YEAR'S REPORT

OF THE

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SUMMARY

The Commission's first full year has been a time of preparation for commemoration, of building the framework for celebrating the anniversary of the historic events surrounding the drafting, signing and ratification of the United States Constitution, and the establishment of the first government under that Constitution.

As the Commission pressed forward for its principal commemorative date, the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution --barely a year away--its efforts were given a dramatic boost by the decision in June of the Commission's Chairman, Warren E. Burger, to retire as Chief Justice of the United States, to devote his full energies to Commission operations.

The Chief Justice has noted that the remaining time during which to prepare is woefully short as compared with that for the American Revolution Bicentennial. That previous commission was created ten years before the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, in contrast, was appointed in mid-1985.

The Bicentennial Commission has met eight times since then. It has begun in earnest to fulfill its mission as defined by its Chairman: to provide "a history and civics lesson for all of us."

The Commission has determined to focus primarily on the educational potentialities that the commemoration affords and to foster a firm understanding and appreciation of America's constitutional heritage and priceless freedoms. Unlike many commemorations, this is not a "fireworks and parades" event, but one that spans three years.

Commission Resources

The Commission staff has grown in the past year from one person in August 1985 to 78 funded by appropriations and 18 from other agencies. Many of the staff members are educators, historians, journalists and people from business.

In terms of financial resources, to date Congress has appropriated approximately $13 million to be available until termination of the Commission at the end of 1989; an additional appropriation request of about the same

amount is now pending. In sharp contrast, the American Revolution Bicentennial benefited from more than $200 million in today's dollars in appropriated funds, apart from support from the private sector and profit-making programs amounting to about an additional $50 million.

Although "economy" has been the watchword in the conduct of Commission affairs, we have sought during the first year to "promote and coordinate activities to commemorate the Bicentennial of the Constitution," the purpose of the Commission as stated in the Act that created it. Prior to its September meeting, the Commission had granted Official Recognition to 30 projects, ranging from a specially created curriculum on the Constitution to an historical poster display to an oratorical contest. Recognized also are such diverse projects as a National Park Service Bicentennial slide show, a symposium on federalism and checks and balances, the U.S. Army's videotapes and pamphlets on the "soldier-statesmen" of our Founding era, and the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities' "Dialogue" program on the Constitution, to be held at member schools. The Commission has recognized "Miracle at Philadelphia," an historical exhibit in Independence National Historical Park featuring major documents relating to the formation and adoption of the Constitution. It has also recognized "The American Experiment," a National Archives exhibition program exploring the history of the Constitution.

Competitions and Other Programs

The Commission is the primary sponsor of a national writing competition for high school students, in cooperation with *USA TODAY*/Gannett and the American Bar Association, and an essay competition for law students, in association with West Publishing Company. It has issued letters of encouragement to a number of organizations planning Bicentennial projects and has begun a computerized clearinghouse listing commemorative activities being planned nationwide.

Contacts have been made with 74 federal government departments and agencies to stimulate interest in adopting Bicentennial projects. Some 60 agencies representing 99 percent of all federal personnel have made plans for some kind of activity to celebrate the Constitution's anniversary. A congressional information service has been established to keep Members of Congress and staff informed of Bicentennial events.

In the international area, the Commission plans to work through four geographical committees to inform the peoples of other countries about the history and workings of our Constitution and to stimulate programs in other countries.

This is in accord with the Act creating the Commission, which states that the Constitution "has set an enduring example of representative democracy for the world...."

In 44 States and 76 communities Bicentennial commissions have been established. By the end of 1986, it is expected that every State will have a commission and many more communities will have active commissions, creating local awareness of the coming commemoration. As of this date several States have not created offical commissions, although letters went to every Governor last year. We are pressing the "non-organized" States.

Congress mandated that the Commission "encourage private organizations, and State and local governments to organize and participate in bicentennial activities commemorating or examining the drafting, ratification, and history of the Constitution and the specific features of the document."

In its role of encouraging and coordinating, the Commission has worked through private and public entities to reach out to Americans to help create greater understanding of the accomplishments of the Founders, the nature of the system of governance they established, and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

A sampling of private organizations' participation in the commemoration includes the following:

-The American Association of Retired Persons is participating in a "living legacy" project of planting gardens in commemoration of the Constitution.

-The Aerospace Educational Foundation has mailed press kits of Bicentennial information to its 300 chapters.

-The American Management Association will display a poster series at its training centers.

-The Boy Scouts of America are conducting many Bicentennial projects throughout their organization.
-The Disabled American Veterans will conduct a range of projects, including magazine articles, essay contests, and prepared speeches.
-The AFL-CIO plans to distribute educational packets to its affiliates.
-The National Chamber Foundation of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is publishing a series of essays examining economic rights under the Constitution.
-The Federalist Foundation is reconstructing a sailing vessel built in 1787.

Year's Activities

Specific activities of the Commission during the past year include the following:
-Ten Committees of Commission Members were organized to deal with various Commission functions.
-Divisions of the Commission staff were set up to deal with, among other things, the media, federal and international liaison, State and local governments, education and private organizations.
-A logo and seal were selected.
-Regulations were adopted on Commission recognition of Bicentennial projects and acceptance of contributions.
-Contacts were made with hundreds of organizations and with federal offices in which personnel have been assigned to provide liaison with the Commission.
-A calendar of historical events was printed and distributed.
-Commemorative postage stamps were approved in conjunction with the U.S. Postal Service.
-A commemorative medals program was arranged with the U.S. Capitol Historical Society.
-A charitable foundation, the Foundation for the Commemoration of the United States Constitution, was established to attract private donations for the Commission's work and beyond the term of the Commission.
-A newsletter is being published and distributed.
-A brochure was published describing how States and communities can set up local Bicentennial units.
-A speakers' bureau was organized and many speeches were given.
-The activities of the Commission were publicized on national television and in publications throughout the country.

Preparation for the commemoration, although hampered by limitations of money and time, is proceeding with dispatch.

Interest in the Bicentennial is beginning to build across the Nation. In this climate of rising awareness of the commemoration, the Commission encourages and tracks hundreds of events, activities and plans that are underway--from scholarly historical research to celebrations of all kinds.

Scores of seminars and summer institutes will be conducted, exhibits will be erected, plays performed and music played that the Commission may only have indirectly stimulated, as the country awakens to the realization that the 200th anniversary is coming.

The Commission can focus the American mind on the commemoration, and the country in all its diversity of interest will surely set the mood.

ESTABLISHMENT AND SCOPE

In accordance with Section 6 (e) of Public Law 98-101, the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution submits this Second Report--the first full year's report--on its activities.

Report Requirement

The Act required that the Commission submit to the President, both Chambers of Congress and the Judicial Conference of the United States a "comprehensive report incorporating specific recommendations of the Commission for commemoration and coordination of the Bicentennial and related activities." By the due date of the First Report--September 29, 1985--the Commission had been in operation for less than two months, without an appropriation for any staff. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger assigned five members of the Supreme Court staff to assist with the initial staff work of the Commission. The Commission therefore made only a preliminary report of the general framework of the Bicentennial commemoration, the formation of the Commission and a statement of what the Commission hoped to do. Given the belated start and minimal financing, it was obvious from the outset that the major function of the Commission would be to stimulate others to develop programs, with emphasis on television, radio and newspaper coverage.

This publication is intended to inform the three Branches of government of our activities in generating national awareness of the coming commemoration.

Commission Membership

The Commission consists of 23 members, appointed by the President, including four recommended by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, four recommended by the President *pro tempore* of the Senate and four recommended by the Chief Justice of the United States. The three remaining positions on the Commission are named in the Act: The Chief Justice or his designee; the President *pro tempore* or his designee, and the Speaker of the House or his designee. (See Exhibit A.)

The President designated the Chief Justice as Chairman. The Vice President of the United States on July 30, 1985, swore in most Commission members.

Commission Meetings

The Commission has met five times since its First Report: November 24-25, 1985, in Washington, D. C.; February 2-3, 1986, in San Diego, California; April 13-14 in Washington, D.C.; June 20-21 in Washington, D. C.; and September 12-13 in Annapolis, Maryland. The September meeting was in part a commemoration of the historic meeting in 1786 which helped to bring about the

Philadelphia Convention.

Previous commission meetings were July 29-30, 1985, in Washington D.C.; August 22-23, 1985, in Salt Lake City, Utah; and September 17, 1985, in Washington D.C..

Before the September '86 meeting, the Commission had granted Official Recognition to 30 Bicentennial projects and issued letters of encouragement for nine other projects that had not yet fully met the requirements for Official Recognition.

Three Phases of Commemoration

The commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Constitution is not a short-term event. The commemoration spans three years, and the emphasis must be on the events leading up to the Philadelphia Convention, the struggle for ratification and the fruits of these historic events.

Each year of the Bicentennial period bears distinct significance for the Founding of the United States. We will press for a commemoration consisting of three phases, corresponding to the years from 1987 through 1989. The activities and celebration should also take into account America's development under the Constitution.

The three phases will be:

(1) 1987: "Framing the Constitution." The year 1987 should be dedicated to the memory of the Founders and the document they drafted in Philadelphia. The commemorations of 1986 and 1987 should focus on the events that led up to the Philadelphia Convention and the signing of the Constitution by Convention delegates on September 17, 1787.

The 1986-1987 phase of the "history and civics lesson" should emphasize the political thought of the Founders; the influence of the Western philosophical tradition and the American experience with self government upon the Founders' lives and work; the reasons for calling the Constitutional Convention; the issues and debates within the Convention; and an analysis of the text of the Constitution itself.

(2) 1988: "Ratifying the Constitution: The People Consent." In 1988, the commemorations should center on the state ratification conventions. The ratification of the document by nine States put the Constitution into effect; 1988 will mark the 200th anniversary of this ratification. In 1988 the focus should be on the public debate on the proposed Constitution, such as ***The Federalist Papers***. We hope to have programs in every State.

The period of the Founding of the Constitution was one of the most dramatic in world history; "the fate of an empire" hung in the balance. The primary goal during this phase of the celebration should be to foster an understanding of the difficult struggles to secure ratification in the face of powerful opponents such as Patrick Henry in Virginia and Governor Clinton in New York.

(3) 1989: "Establishing a Government under the Constitution." The year 1989 marks the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Legislative and Executive Branches, and the enactment of the Judiciary Act of 1789 defining the Judicial Branch pursuant to the Constitution. The inauguration of George Washington in New York as the first President of the United States will be appropriately celebrated. In 1989, programs should focus primarily on the relationships among, and 200 years of historical development of, the three Branches of government under the Constitution. The celebration should include all entities of the Federal Government and seek to foster an understanding of their relationship to the American people.

In 1789, the first Congress drafted proposed amendments to the Constitution that became our Bill of Rights upon ratification in 1791. The commemoration in 1989 of Congress's submission of those amendments to the States for ratification will prepare the way for a celebration of the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights.

ACTIVITIES AND PLANS

The activities and plans that are encouraged and coordinated by the Bicentennial Commission fall into several categories. These include educational programs, federal and international activities, state and local participation, private sector initiatives, coverage by the news media, project tracking and recognition, and speakers' bureau services. These are described below.

Promoting Educational Programs

As one of its most important educational projects, the Commission is cosponsoring two national writing competitions.

The cosponsors for The National Bicentennial Writing Competition for High School Students are *USA TODAY*/Gannett and the American Bar Association. The topic is: "The Constitution: How Does the Separation of Powers Help Make It Work?" State, District of Columbia, and Overseas or Territory winners will receive $1,000 and an expenses-paid round-trip to Washington, D.C., where they will meet with the President, the Chief Justice, leaders of Congress and members of the National Commission. One National Winner, chosen from among the State, District, and Territory Winners, will receive $10,000. The deadline for entries is April 15, 1987. Length may not exceed 1,500 words. Major costs of the contest and the prize money will come from *USA TODAY* /Gannett.

An essay contest for law school students is being sponsored by the Commission and the West Publishing Company. The topic is: "Does the Allocation of Power Between the Federal and State Governments and Among the Three Branches of the Federal Government Contribute to the Preservation of Individual Liberty and the Functioning of our Government?" The first prize will be $10,000, the second prize $2,500, and the third prize $1,000. At least fifty regional prizes will be awarded through the federal judicial circuits. Deadline for entries is April 15, 1987. Essay length is 2,500 words. West Publishing Co. will cover the costs of the contest and contribute the prize money. West has also commissioned a painting of the signing of the Constitution, copies of which will be given to every high school in the country. Logistics of delivery are complex, and local Bar Associations will be requested to make a ceremonial delivery of these copies early in 1987.

Recognized Projects

The Commission has granted Official Recognition to 12 education projects; all have the potential to reach large audiences:

An international conference on the Bicentennial of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, "Constitutional Government and the Development of an Enlightened Citizenry," was sponsored by the Center for Civic Education (CCE) of Calabasas, California. The conference was planned to provide European leaders with a more profound understanding of the relationships between our Constitution, the institutions of government it created, and the American political system, and to show them some exemplary civic education programs in the United States.

The CCE has also developed a National Bicentennial Competition, based on a six-week study unit on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, designed to complement and be integrated into the curriculum requirements of participating schools. A quiz competition will follow completion of the unit, with the winning classes from each State competing in Washington, D.C., for the national title. Full implementation at the 11th grade level is scheduled for school year 1987-1988. The field-testing and developmental phase of this program has been granted Official Recognition.

"The Blessings of Liberty," a 12-poster exhibit created by Project '87, of which the Commission's Chairman is Honorary Chairman, has been designed to portray basic events, leaders, and ideas that contributed to the framing of the Constitution. Although conceptualized for use as a complete set, the individual posters have been designed so that each may be used independently. Included on each poster is a synopsis of a different Founding theme. The synopses have been written by scholars and explain the topics in simple terms. The poster project is intended to serve as a catalyst for commemorative activities in schools, community centers, libraries, offices, and other public places, and will be accompanied by a "User's Guide" to assist with such activities.

Magna Carta in America is a nonprofit organization created for the purpose of sponsoring a touring exhibit of the 1215 Lincoln Cathedral Exemplar of Magna Carta. Accompanying this historic document of Western civilization will be two other important documents--early drafts of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights--as well as a collection of relevant artifacts, documents and paintings from England and the United States. The initiatory Oregon showing has been officially recognized by the Commission. An audio-visual program developed by the Oregon Committee for the Humanities and an illustrated commemorative handbook will complete the exhibition, entitled "Liberty Under the Law: Magna Carta to the Constitution." The objectives of the tour are to present the evolution of rights, responsibilities, and liberties from Magna Carta to the Constitution; to foster an understanding of the principles embodied in the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights; and to commemorate the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

Teaching by Documents

"The Constitution: Evolution of a Government" is the title of a supplemental teaching unit for secondary school students prepared by the National Archives. One in a series of seven teaching units, "The Constitution" uses 40 documents from the National Archives collection. The unit attempts to teach critical skills through the use of primary documentary sources; it was developed by the National Archives in response to research indicating that primary source teaching materials on the Constitution are limited and that knowledge of the Constitution is inadequate among many students and teachers.

Each year the American Legion sponsors a National High School Oratorical Contest in which contestants deliver a prepared oration on some provision of the Constitution, emphasizing the duties and obligations of citizenship. The oration must be original and delivered in eight to 10 minutes. Contestants also must deliver an extemporaneous discourse of three to five minutes on a constitutional provision. Competitions begin locally and progress through regional and national rounds. Winners of regional contests receive a minimum $1,000 scholarship, and the national winner is awarded a $16,000 scholarship.

A symposium sponsored by the University of South Carolina School of Law, "The Federal Courts--The Next 100 Years," is scheduled to be held in September 1986. Its purpose is to generate ideas to enhance the effectiveness

and efficiency of the federal courts to enable them better to fulfill the purposes of the Constitution.

The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies has developed a two-year program of scholarly research and public education designed to illuminate constitutional protections of individual liberties and minority rights within a democratic framework. The program seeks to examine the history and development of two main protections of individual liberty and minority rights under the Constitution. The Society's 1986 symposium has received Official Recognition from the Commission.

The University of Dallas has developed a project entitled "Constitutionalism in America," a three-year program comprising lecture series, academic conferences, a speakers' bureau and programs for teachers. The purpose of the project is to awaken reflections on what it means to live under a written constitution.

MENTOR, a law-related education project creating a partnership between law firms and New York City Public Schools, has received Official Recognition for two segments of its program: the Moot Court and the Bicentennial Module. MENTOR provides students with an introduction to the legal profession by such means as visits with lawyers in their offices, visits to federal and State courts, visits to high schools by the lawyers, and participation in such activities as a Moot Court.

Macalester College's Wallace Conference on the Liberal Arts, entitled "The Constitution, Freedom of Expression and the Liberal Arts," has been developed at the Minnesota college in cooperation with the Commission. The primary purpose of the 1986 and 1987 conferences is to develop broad, substantial involvement and understanding among Macalester students, faculty and a large cross-section of Minnesotans in contemporary and historical questions concerning freedom of expression, the U.S. Constitution, and the role of the liberal arts. All colleges in Minnesota will participate. Chief Justice Burger will keynote the first conference in September 1986.

The Commission has encourages another educational project, The Mini Page. In honor of the Constitution's 200th anniversary, The Mini Page, a weekly educational feature for children appearing in more than 450 newspapers across the Nation, is now publishing a monthly series, during the 1986-1987 Bicentennial period, on the creation of the Constitution. Since March 1986, The Mini Page has covered such topics as the Mount Vernon Conference of 1785, the Articles of Confederation, life in Philadelphia in 1787, and the signers of the Constitution. Future issues will include sketches of some of the most significant members of the Constitutional Convention and key historical events.

Education Registry

The Commission has created an Educational Programs Registry. The Registry provides a short summary of constitution-related educational programs including, but not limited to, officially recognized projects, projects funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and other projects with which the Commission is involved. Individuals or organizations may call or write the Commission staff for information concerning diverse educational Bicentennial programs being undertaken across the United States.

We hope that our efforts to keep in touch with State and local activities and educational institutions will lead to other programs independent of the Commission. For example:

A seminar on Constitutional Adjudication, presented by the Federal Judicial Center for federal judges in June 1986, explored current problems in the context of the historical roots of the Constitution. The Center has published "The Writing and Ratification of the U.S. Constitution: A Bibliography" and, in addition, an abbreviated version of that bibliography for ready reference, prepared by Russell R. Wheeler of the Center. Both publications include a detailed chronology of the Founding period. Additional educational programs relative to the Bicentennial are planned by the Center.

"We All Are a Part of It," an historical musical and supplementary teacher's guide, has been developed under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The project is used to enhance elementary school students' understanding of our Nation's history.

A one-week, elementary-level teaching unit examining the role of Maryland in the framing of the Constitution has been developed by the Maryland Bicentennial Commission.

And a concept for a "Constitutional bookshelf" translated into foreign languages and disseminated to foreign embassies and universities has been developed by the American International Book Development Council.

Federal and International Programs

The Commission is encouraging federal agencies and departments to plan, organize, and execute Bicentennial activities. To help facilitate the sharing of ideas, plans and projects, bi-monthly meetings are conducted for representatives of 74 departments and agencies. The meetings consist of formal presentations by department/agency presenters, followed by discussion and a question-and-answer period.

As follow-up to these meetings, the Commission staff conducts working sessions with department/agency Bicentennial committees to help coordinate activities, determine needed assistance and review developed material. Upon request, Commission members and staff also serve as speakers and provide representation at functions for department/agency audiences.

To help federal departments and agencies plan and execute their programs, the Commission maintains a computerized listing of federal programs, including a directory of federal department and agency contacts and an inventory of federal programs.

Activities

To date 74 federal departments and agencies have been contacted. Of these, 60 (employing 99 percent of the 5.2 million federal personnel) have submitted detailed plans for commemorating the Bicentennial.

Federal departments and agencies have planned to provide 48 programs directed at federal employees, 22 programs directed at the general public, and 18 programs oriented particularly toward youth. Thus many in the general public will be reached in addition to federal personnel.

Federal entities will undertake a broad range of activity with programs oriented toward adopted schools, art, articles on the Founding, audio-visual materials, calendars, debates, educational material, essay contests, exhibits, literature, live theatre, music, commemorative stamps, posters, publications, regional activities, historical research, seminars, speeches and tree planting.

Eleven federal department/agency projects have received the Official Recognition of the Commission. The Department of Army, the National Archives and the Department of the Interior's National Park Service have sponsored these projects.

Future Plans

Federal departments and agencies will be encouraged to conduct their own Bicentennial activities in all regions of the country, and we have urged all of them to coordinate with the Commission. Helping to facilitate this broader appeal, the Commission provides an information/assistance packet to the individual departments and agencies.

The computerized listing will be maintained and released to all department and agency Bicentennial committees. Educational efforts will be increased and more federal projects are expected to be submitted for Official Recognition.

International Programs

The Commission will try to stimulate worldwide interest in the Bicentennial and, in so doing, to inform the people in other nations about the history and principles of the Constitution.

The Commission has divided this work into four areas: Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Europe. Committees are being formed for each of these areas.

The Commission is working with the State Department, the United States Information Agency (USIA) and the Departments of Defense andCommerce--agencies equipped to communicate information about the Bicentennial of the Constitution around the world. This involves not only American communities, businesses and military and

diplomatic personnel, but foreign citizens as well. USIA has scheduled Commission members to speak abroad and has distributed information to attendees at international meetings worldwide. For instance, USIA will distribute literature at the International Book Fair in Tel Aviv, Israel, April 15, 1987. Voice of America will do the same at the Inter-Telecommunication Union Convention in Nairobi, Kenya, later this year. The Voice of America has had three broadcasts in which Chief Justice Burger has participated at the request of USIA.

USIA will also have a 50-poster exhibit that will travel around the world.

The Department of Commerce plans to involve the travel industry in the United States in an effort to attract foreign travelers to the United States for the Bicentennial. The Department of Commerce has distributed kits on the Bicentennial to its posts abroad and to the travel industry in the United States.

A brochure suitable for distribution abroad is planned; it will present facts about our celebration, generate interest among foreign readers and lead readers to a USIA or other library for more in-depth information about our Constitution and how it works. Full cooperation with representatives of foreign governments will assist United States ambassadors abroad with their plans for the celebration.

All Commission international activities are being coordinated with the State Department. Our effort will be to encourage other countries to develop programs to discuss the principles and history of the Constitution with a view to weighing whether such principles could be beneficially incorporated into their own forms of government, especially in emerging or politically divided nations. We are also recognizing the contributions other countries have made to our Constitution and our heritage. Given that the primary emphasis of the commemoration will be placed on the founding concepts of the Constitution, conferences and publications will educate international audiences about the Constitution's structural protections of individual rights.

We will request the Secretary of State to have all U.S. Embassies develop some ceremonial activities for September 17, 1987.

State and Local Participation

The Commission has recognized the Bicentennial commissions of 33 States and 16 communities; by mid-September, the Commission expects to have recognized some 11 additional State commissions and more than 50 additional Bicentennial communities at the local level. It is anticipated that by the end of 1986, every State and territory and hundreds of local communities will have created Bicentennial commissions recognized by the Commission. Philadelphia, Boston, and San Diego, as well as other major cities, already have established city commissions with plans appropriate to the educational and civic goals of the Commission.

Other newly recognized communities are: Albuquerque, N.M.; Alexandria, Va.; Annapolis, Md.; Calvert County, Md.; Johnson County, Kan.; Knoxville-Knox County, Tenn.; Mesa, Ariz.; Nevada City, Cal.; North Salem, N.Y.; Old Bridge, N.J.; Smyrna, Del.; South Bend, Ind.; and Tulsa, Okla.

Award Program

Under an award program created in June, the first 200 Bicentennial Communities will receive plaques and certificates in recognition of their early participation. Several communities--among them Mesa, Arizona, and Nevada City, California--have been conducting activities to commemorate the Constitution for more than a decade.

Aid from Government Associations

National government-related associations, including the National Governors Association, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, the National Association of Towns and Townships, the National Municipal League and the National Conference of State Legislatures, have worked to educate their members and encourage them to take part. Many of these groups also plan to include Bicentennial themes in their regional and national meetings for 1987. With the assistance of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, more than 30 cities have signed and returned proclamations officially designating September 17, 1987, as Constitution Day.

Examples of successful state and local activities have occurred in a number of cities.

In one, a talk before 300 state legislators made many legislators aware of the coming Bicentennial for the first time and led to the creation of at least one state Bicentennial commission.

A Commission appearance before the mayors of major cities enabled many mayors to be informed on how to establish a commission, and led to formation of several new community commissions.

In October 1986, the Commission will hold a national conference of the leaders of state Bicentennial commissions in Orlando, Florida, funded in part by Walt Disney World. State commission chairmen and staff directors have been invited to participate in this conference. The meeting will enable state commission leaders to exchange Bicentennial planning and program information.

Private Sector Initiatives

In order to encourage private groups, organizations, and individuals to participate in the Bicentennial, the Commission has adopted a strategy of drawing upon networks of established organizations.

Private organizations' Bicentennial activities include forums sponsored by the League of Women Voters, articles and exhibits by the Reserve Officers Association, a national youth essay contest, pre-game and half-time programs at sporting events, and the inclusion of historical messages in corporate newsletters. The active participation of corporate America is intended to be an integral part of the Commission's strategy of blanket communication and dissemination of the Commission's message.

Progress

During the past year, the Commission has mailed informational material to approximately 1,000 trade, professional and industry associations, organizations and religious entities.

Major telephone companies have agreed to design and produce Bicentennial illustrations on the covers of telephone books.

The Commission has also:

-Contacted a wide variety of private organizations concerning its "plant a living legacy" project, a planting project in honor of the Constitution that will take place in communities across the nation.

-Established an initiative to encourage ethnic groups and identified organizations, conventions and meetings essential to this effort. More than 40 ethnic organizations have been contacted; groups are being formed and meetings conducted.

-Worked to develop Bicentennial projects in conjunction with organizations for the handicapped. One such project involves the conversion of Bicentennial literature to Braille and audio packages.

-Developed an extensive program to reach senior citizens and is working closely with such groups as the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to develop nationwide programs.

The Council for the Advancement of Citizenship, an association of civic organizations, will sponsor three regional seminars to educate state and local leaders about the Bicentennial. These daylong seminars have received Official Recognition from the Commission and will be held in Philadelphia, New Orleans, and Los Angeles.

The Commission has developed a private sector approach through the creation of groups of companies within the same industry. The hotel cluster group held its first meeting in July, and cluster groups for other industries are being formed.

Small business activities included a presentation on the Bicentennial at the White House Small Business Conference in August 1986.

Projected Activities

The Commission will make efforts to reach the automotive, consumer goods, service, restaurant, and sports industries, and international corporations with facilities in the United States.

Active participation at major association conventions also will continue. The Commission staff in recent months has participated in the major conventions and meetings of the Boy Scouts, AARP, U.S. Army -

Spirit of America, National Beta Club, 50th National Association of Student Councils, National Archives, National Leadership Conference, National Council of Senior Citizens, National Exchange, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Sister Cities International, American Nurserymen, American Society of Association Executives and Phi Alpha Delta.

Here are some of the specific activities private organizations are engaged in or plan for the near future:

-American Bankers Association will publish Bicentennial information in its newsletter, promote formation of commissions at State and local levels and promote essay contests among members.

-Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., is underwriting a broad-ranging Bicentennial program, the centerpiece of which will be a four-part public television series in conjunction with the American Bar Association. The brokerage house also will underwrite state ratification commemorations throughout the nation honoring each State's signing of the Constitution or entry into the Union.

-American Civil Liberties Union is preparing constitutional material for its 50 state affiliates.

-American Enterprise Institute has been conducting a Decade Study of the Constitution with conferences, books and television programs on major themes of the Constitution.

-American Library Association is compiling bibliographies on the Constitution.

-American Newspaper Publishers Association and its Foundation are planning a universal flag salute on September 17, 1987, in all schools of the Nation.

-Boys Clubs of America expect to distribute 5 million copies of the Constitution by December 1987 and put together a handbook showing communities how to celebrate and discuss the Constitution.

-Chicago Historical Society is planning a permanent "We the People" exhibit.

-American Cyanamid will include articles and quotations from Founders in its company newspaper.

-Giant Food, Inc., will use Bicentennial ads in its newspaper advertising and articles in its employee magazine.

-National Association of Home Builders has adopted the Bicentennial theme for its 1987 annual convention-exposition.

Communications and Media Coverage

In the task of capturing public attention and interest, televison will play a large role in helping to inform the American people of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution.

All networks gave major play to the Chief Justice's announcement of his retirement to devote full time to the Bicentennial Commission. A one-hour Bill Moyers interview was televised in which the Chief Justice discussed his decision to retire from the Court and the importance of the Bicentennial commemoration. CBS will soon begin broadcasting one-minute WE THE PEOPLE spots which will be shown in prime time, five days a week, at least through Spring 1987.

The other networks also have shown considerable interest in the Commission and the Bicentennial, with a segment carried on GOOD MORNING, AMERICA.

The commercial networks and Cable News Network are working on various projects about the Constitution. Meetings have been held, discussing possible approaches. C-SPAN has covered the work of the Commission and has televised live several of its public meetings.

A number of Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations have planned special programs about the Constitution and its history. These projects range from a six-part series by WNET (New York) on the Preamble to a nine-part series by WQED-TV (Pittsburgh) on constitutional traditions to shorter programs by other stations. All told, about a dozen projects are in various stages of development by PBS stations, in addition to program efforts by member stations of National Public Radio.

Television coverage has also included one program on USIA/WORLDNET featuring the Chief Justice answering questions from

participants in a constitutional seminar, handled live via satellite from Hong Kong, and one from Western Europe.

Voice of America has recorded each public Commission hearing for future use on radio, and several commercial radio networks (ABC, NBC, CBS, Mutual) have covered some Commission activities and plan special Bicentennial programs.

Although television coverage is the most obvious media treatment, coverage of Bicentennial planning and events by the print media has been extensive, with a number of major national magazines scheduling coverage of the Bicentennial in the coming months.

The Chairman has addressed such organizations as the National Association of Broadcasters, the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the Advertising Council, asking for--and receiving assurances of--support in telling the Bicentennial story.

Assisting Education

The Commission's staff has assisted in several educational programs. In June, Scholastic magazine brought 13 young people from around the country to a student press conference with Chief Justice Burger. The question-and-answer session will be featured in Scholastic magazines, kicking off the 1986-1987 school year. A one-hour version of the press conference was broadcast by WNEV-TV Boston as one of a series of programs on the Bicentennial and is being syndicated to other stations around the country.

A 24-page booklet featuring ideas for use by individuals and state and local commissions in commemorating the Constitution's Bicentennial--entitled "Guide to Celebrating the Constitution"--has been produced and includes a list of important historical dates of the Founding period.

The Commission staff has written dozens of articles on the Philadelphia Convention, including such topics as the reasons for the Convention, the leaders of the Convention, and the concept of a three-branch federal government. These articles have been disseminated to a large number of newsletters and other publications throughout the country.

The Commission's own Bicentennial Newsletter has featured articles on the formation of the Commission and coverage of Commission meetings, progress in creating State commissions, and plans for commemorative activities in Philadelphia during September 1987.

Projects Clearinghouse and Recognition

The statute creating the Commission requires it to function as a clearinghouse. The consolidation and computerization of information on the Bicentennial is therefore a high priority, and the Commission will soon realize full operation of a computerized clearinghouse on Bicentennial events, programs and resources. As the Commission acquires more sophisticated computer equipment and ties separate personal computers into a network, the database will become available to each member of the Commission staff.

The Commission also reviews plans and projects which appear appropriate for official encouragement, recognition, or cosponsorship. There are five forms of Commission involvement: Commission projects, cosponsored projects, officially recognized projects, state Bicentennial commissions, and designated Bicentennial communities.

Commission Projects

Commission Projects are projects of national or international significance for which the Commission takes full responsibility. Such projects will be few in number.

Cosponsorship

The Commission will cosponsor a limited number of projects with private and public organizations, including agencies of the Federal Government. Although the Commission reserves the right to participate in a cosponsored project's development and implementation, primary responsibility for the project ordinarily rests with the other sponsor or sponsors, who are authorized to use the National Bicentennial Logo.

To qualify, the Commission must determine that the project will make an exceptional contribution to advancing the national commemoration and will increase public understanding and appreciation of the

Constitution. The cost to the Commission, if any, must be reasonable, and the project must be adequately financed and directed.

Official Recognition

The Commission may grant Official Recognition to projects of regional, national, or international significance. Such projects must have substantial educational and historical value in relation to the Constitution and must be adequately financed and directed. Sponsors of officially recognized projects are also authorized to use the National Bicentennial Logo.

State Commissions

The Commission also may recognize any Bicentennial organization as a state Bicentennial commission at the request of the Governor or the legislature of a State, or at the request of the chief executive in the case of the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. A state Bicentennial commission qualifies as a state advisory commission.

Bicentennial Communities

Finally, the Commission encourages local governing bodies such as cities and counties to establish designated Bicentennial Communities.

To apply for Commission cosponsorship or Official Recognition of a project, sponsors must complete an application and submit it together with all required materials to: Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, 736 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20503.

Applications should include a comprehensive description of the project and a narrative statement indicating how the project meets the criteria established by the Commission, as provided on the application form. The application form must include a statement that the applicant agrees to be bound by all policies, requirements, and regulations of the Commission. The Commission may also issue a letter of encouragement when a project demonstrates outstanding merit but has not reached the stage of development to reasonably assure implementation.

Future Events

The Commission's plans for participating in events include: the Walt Disney World celebration honoring the Constitution in October 1986, a CBS "gala" broadcast from the Kennedy Center on September 13, 1987, and Philadelphia's "We the People 200" celebration on September 17, 1987.

As a special project, a 1987 Bicentennial Historical Calendar to succeed the Commission's popular 1986 calendar has been prepared for use by teachers, speech-writers, journalists and others.

Speaking on the Constitution

The Commission's speakers' bureau was set up to help bring national and international attention to the history and principles of the Constitution. The bureau maintains a roster of prospective speakers that is philosophically and geographically balanced. Potential speakers have been identified through a variety of sources, including Commission members and staff, scholarly institutions and political and civic leaders and organizations.

The bureau provides liaison services and has supplied historical resource materials in response to scores of requests.

A critical function of the Commission's speakers' bureau is to encourage the formation of state and local speakers' bureaus. A speakers' bureau of federal judges also has been organized by the Judicial Conference of the United States to talk on constitutional themes.

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Since the first report, amendments to Public Law 98-101, which created the Commission, have raised the limit on the size of the Commission's staff and provided supporting appropriations. This was done primarily through the efforts of Senator John Stennis, of the Appropriations Committee and Senators and Representatives who are members of the Commission, particularly Senator Ted Stevens. The Continuing Resolution signed by the President in December 1985 (Public Law 99-190) provided the Commission with $12 million to remain available until expended.

Before approving this $12 million, Congress approved an appropriation providing the Commission with $775,0000 for 1986 (Public Law 99-180, signed by the President in December 1985), and a supplementary appropriation for Fiscal 1985 of $331,000. The President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 1987 included $12 million in additional appropriations. The House of Representatives has approved $13 million.

In accordance with Commission wishes, and with the cosponsorship of Commission Members who are also Members of Congress, two bills were introduced in 1985 to extend the basic authority of the Commission. The House bill (H.R. 3559) was passed by the House of Representatives on June 24, 1986. The companion Senate bill (S. 1779) together with the House-passed bill was placed on the Senate Calendar for action before the end of this congressional session. If Congress approves the measure before adjournment in October 1986, the bills would extend the life of the Commission by two years, through December 31, 1991.

The Commission voted to support a measure to enact a one-time federal holiday, "Constitution Day," to mark the Bicentennial of the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1987. The Senate bill (S.2216) is now on the Senate Calendar awaiting passage. The House bill (H.R. 3842) is to be given a hearing in the House once 218 cosponsors are obtained. Congress may act favorably on this measure, in whole or in part, before adjournment.

Also in accordance with Commission support and the support of Commission Members in the House, a bill was introduced (H.R. 3415) to authorize the minting of commemorative gold and silver coins, and gold, silver and bronze medals. The Commission has officially recognized the Bicentennial Medal Program of the United States Capitol Historical Society, under an agreement providing that each of the Society's commemorative medals may be

designated an official medal of the Commission.

In accordance with requirements of law, the Commission has adopted and published regulations governing: (1) Organization and Functions (45 CFR Part 2000); (2) Project Recognition and Support (45 CFR Part 2001); and (3) Regulations on Donations (45 CFR Part 2002).

Congressional Information Service

To inform Members of Congress and congressional staff of Bicentennial events and anniversary dates, and in order to enhance congressional support for the Commission's programs, a congressional information service has been established.

With the support of Commission members who are also Members of Congress the Commission has been able to supply periodic reports, called "Bicentennial Alerts," to over 600 Congressional Bicentennial liaison staff in 340 Congressional offices in Washington, D.C., and in home districts.

Each Bicentennial Alert provides for each day of the month a sample of what happened on that date in history which in some way involves the development of the Constitution, the Framers and the expansion of our Nation and evolution of our governmental system. The Alerts provide sufficient information to form the basis for speeches, special commemorative events, and distribution to local school districts. Research requests from individual House and Senate offices are currently being fulfilled in a timely fashion, but we anticipate a much greater demand for these services once the 1986 elections have passed.

The Commission's goal is to stimulate grass-roots commemorative and educational activities by providing congressional offices with individualized assistance in the areas of research, speech preparation, and coordination of Bicentennial activities at the district, state and regional levels. Each House and Senate office was requested in early Spring 1986 to designate a specific staff person as a Bicentennial liaison. As of September 1, 1986, more than one-half of the House and two-thirds of the Senate have assigned both Capitol Hill and local staff to this function.

BUILDING A STAFF

The staff of the Commission has grown from a few employees and volunteers to 78 paid with appropriated funds and 18 detailed from other federal agencies.

In addition to the Staff Director and Deputy Staff Director, division directors are in place for State and Local Programs, Federal and International Programs, Educational Programs, Commission Plans and Projects Recognition, Office of Legal Counsel and Communications. Acting directors serve for Private Programs and Administration.

More than one in every four persons on staff has a graduate degree, and about the same proportion has teaching experience. Included are former university professors, historians, attorneys, corporate executives and journalists. Some 20 percent of the staff are working with the Commission at reduced salaries during this period, in accordance with the Commission's policy to hold salaries to minimum levels.

Discussions with the leaders of the Statue of Liberty restoration effort underscored the importance of expert marketing advice to develop a "business plan" for Commission projects and goals. The Commission will be enlisting the person in charge of marketing for the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., Edward Dooley -- who worked with Lee Iacocca -- to develop a marketing plan for the Bicentennial Commission.

We have been handicapped to date by having staff located in temporary quarters. The official headquarters for the Commission has now been changed from 734 Jackson Place, N.W., to 736 Jackson Place, N.W., with the majority of the staff continuing to be housed for the time being in the Matomic Building at 1717 H Street, N.W.

FUNDING

The Bicentennial Commission has two sources of funds: congressional appropriations and private donations.

Appropriations

Congress appropriated $331,000 in fiscal year 1985. For fiscal year 1986, $775,000 was initially appropriated, followed by an additional $12 million appropriation. Of this amount, approximately $549,000 was sequestered under the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Budget Reduction Act, leaving a balance of $12,557,000.

The President requested fiscal 1987 appropriations for the Commission in the amount of $12 million. Independent of this, S. 1264 was enacted on December 20, 1985, authorizing $5 million per year from fiscal year 1987 through 1991 for Commission expenditures in pre-university educational programs and a national competition. The House of Representatives has passed legislation for appropriations of $13 million. At the August congressional recess, however, the Senate had not acted on this bill. Appropriations for the Commission are "no-year" money, which means they can be spent in any year during the life of the Commission.

Donations

The Commission receives tax-deductible donations directly from individuals and corporations and non-profit organizations for Bicentennial projects of historical, educational, or restorational purposes. Donations are of two kinds--monetary and products or services. As of July 31, 1986, private donations to the Commission totalled $48,000, with an estimated value of products or services of $200,000.One member of the Commission contributed $15,000 by "hosting" one meeting; another member contributed $4,000.

Exhibit A

Members of the Commission

Warren E. Burger, Chairman
Chief Justice of the United States

Frederick K. Biebel
Chairman
U.S. Constitution Council of the Thirteen Original States, Inc.

Lindy Boggs
United States House of Representatives

Herbert Brownell
Lord, Day and Lord
Former U.S. Attorney General

Lynne V. Cheney
Chairman
National Endowment for the Humanities

Phillip M. Crane
United States House of Representatives

Dennis DeConcini*
United States Senate

William J. Green
Wolf, Block, Schorr, and Solis-Cohen
Former Mayor of Philadelphia

Rev. Edward Victor Hill
Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church

Cornelia G. Kennedy
Circuit Judge
United States Court of Appeals

Edward M. Kennedy
United States Senate

Harry McKinley Lightsey, Jr.
President
College of Charleston

William Lucas
Wayne County Executive, Michigan

Betty Southard Murphy
Baker and Hostetler
Former Chairman
National Labor Relations Board

Thomas H. O'Connor
Professor of History
Boston College

Phyllis Schlafly
President
Eagle Forum

Bernard H. Siegan
Professor of Law
University of San Diego

Ted Stevens
United States Senate

Obert C. Tanner
Chairman
O.C. Tanner Company

Strom Thurmond
President *pro tempore*
United States Senate

Ronald H. Walker
Managing Director and Partner
Korn/Ferry International

Charles E. Wiggins
Circuit Judge
United States Court of Appeals

Charles Alan Wright
Professor of Law
University of Texas Law School

*Senator Dennis DeConcini was appointed in July 1986 to fill the vacancy created by the death of Edward P. Morgan.

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